

'Ann Landers in Russia' -- an Exclusive Report

By ANN LANDERS

(This is the first of a series of 12 articles by the author of America's most popular human relations column, which runs Sunday and Thursday in the Herald.)

MOSCOW—It would be presumptuous of me, after only three weeks in Russia, to attempt to speak authoritatively about this country. I am only less ignorant on the subject of Russia than before I went.

Reporting on Russia in a few thousand words is like harvesting all the wheat in this tremendous country and then attempting to replant it on the head of a pin.

The Soviet Union covers more than one-fifth of the earth's surface. It has 208 million subjects. You would need 11 wrist watches to know what time it is in every part of the Soviet Union at this moment.

This is not intended as a scholarly study. I didn't go to Russia to evaluate the political situation or the economic structure. I am neither economist nor political scientist. My work is humans—and their problems.

I went to Russia to talk to the people about their problems and to learn what they are doing about them. In anticipation of the trip I studied Russian with a

Berlitz tutor. If I had to depend solely on an interpreter I would get only carefully guarded statements siphoned through a middle party who could in turn add her own distortions.

The Russian language is difficult, but the sounds were not new to me. My parents came to America from Russia in 1908. I heard the language and the songs as a child. And here is a bit of irony. My father hocked his gold watch to get OUT of Russia, and I worked 16 hours a day for weeks (getting ahead with the Landers columns) so I could make the trip!

I was told by Dr. Leon Gendelvitch, director of a mental hospital in Leningrad, that the Soviet Union has less mental illness percentage-wise, than any country in the world because "the government solves all the problems."

He continued with the following to support his case.

"No Russian need worry about a job. There is free medical care, education and vacations. Housing costs almost nothing. Taxes are very low. The system relieves us of capitalistic anxieties. We are a country of well-adjusted people."

The American and German psychiatrists in whose presence this statement was made, stared at the Russian doctor in disbelief. Mental health specialists know that most emotional problems are in no way related to economic pressures.

"Does this man think we are plumbers?" the German doctor whispered to an American colleague. "I cannot believe he accepts as truth this Communist garbage."

I learned the government does indeed eliminate many economic worries but in the final analysis the individual must resolve his own emotional problems in Russia—as everywhere else.

The mental hospital I visited is so dilapidated it would have been condemned in America as unsafe 20 years ago. But the patients get excellent care—far better than what is offered in most American state institutions. I saw no more than a dozen beds in a ward, and three attendants are on duty night and day. It made me ashamed of our state hospitals which, for the most part, are disgracefully overcrowded and pitifully understaffed.

What are the Russian people troubled about? As I suspected:

Ivan is worried about Irena's supervisor at the furniture factory. He has heard rumors—and she has been coming home quite late. Trina is concerned about Alexander's excessive drinking. He missed two days work last week. The Doctorovitchs are worried about their son Thomas. He is depressed about failing his exams and has lost 15 pounds in two months.

Ludmilla and Serge are in love and want to marry but they must wait at least two years for an apartment. Elina has a lecherous boss. Igor hates his mother-in-law. The problems of people are the same the world over. In Moscow they have Russian dressing.

One thing they seem NOT worried about is war. It was never mentioned. I found the people warm and affectionate, with a delicious sense of humor—more like our own than the people of any country I have visited. The Russians love Americans; and in a sense this is difficult to understand. They know only what they read in their newspapers, and what they read does not advance friendship.

(Continued on Page 2)

EVERY SUNDAY AND THURSDAY

Herald Phone Numbers

- FAirfax 8-5164—For Society.
- FAirfax 8-4000—For General News, Circulation.
- FAirfax 8-4000—For Classified, Ask for Ad-Taker.

Greatest Audited Circulation In the Torrance - South Bay Area

Torrance Herald

OFFICE AND PLANT AT 1619 GRAMERCY AVE., TORRANCE

45th Year—No. 85 ★ ★ ★

TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22, 1959

10¢ Per Copy

48 PAGES

IN THE HERALD TODAY

Amusements	36	Legal Ads	40
Ann Landers	9	Obituaries	3
Armed Forces	48	Reg Manning	6
Births	22	Society	9-11
Churches	34	Sports	38-39
Comics	18	Star Gazer	5
Crossword	4	Want Ads	40-47

BOARD UNVEILS WEST HIGH PLANS

Seek Opening In Fall 1962

Plans to open West High School in the fall of 1962 in a modern classroom plant was revealed before the board of education here Tuesday evening.

Preliminary plans for the school, which will become the city's fourth high school, shows a design which features a circular library building as the campus center with clusters of classrooms around it.

Prepared after studies of the good and bad features of the city's other high schools and those of neighboring communities, the preliminary layout was the work of Architect Roy Donley.

THREE DECENTRALIZED eating centers served by a central kitchen is one of the features of Donley's plan. Another is large rooms which could be used for lectures or television if such use becomes practical.

Construction of the fourth high school is scheduled on a 35-acre site bounded by Del Amo, Henrietta, Victor, and Spencer Sts.

TWO OF THE city's other high schools are in for some additions, the board indicated at its meeting.

The trustees employed the Los Angeles architectural firm of Kegley, Westphall, Arbogast, and Stewart to study possible changes in administration facilities at Torrance High; and Roy Donley, who designed South High, to design additions there and at the district administration facilities on Plaza Del Amo.

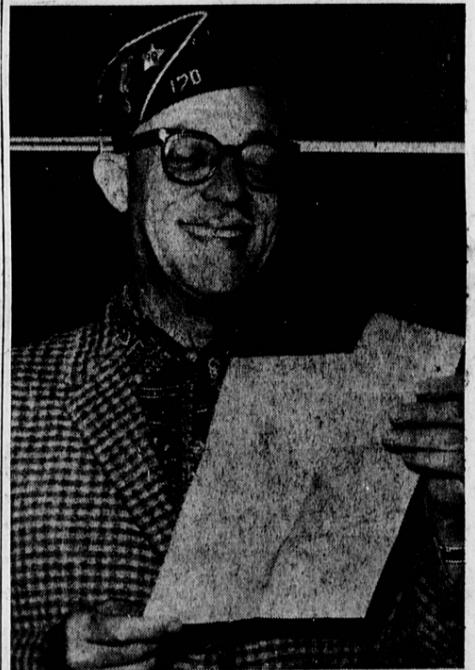
IDEAS FOR consolidating

present scattered administration facilities at Torrance High is the principal goal in the board's action there, it was indicated. The need for more classroom space also is apparent.

The board had been considering the idea of building a separate administration building at Torrance High and using the presently occupied offices as classrooms, but decided to throw the whole program to a design firm for recommendations.

SOUTH HIGH additions would include classrooms and additions to the shop and music buildings.

Additional office space would be added to the district headquarters, it was indicated. The board was told that the number of schools in the city had nearly doubled since the administration building had been expanded.



COMMENDATION . . . Stanley Heiman, first vice commander of the Bert S. Crossland American Legion Post 170, received a special rehabilitation certificate of merit at the regular meeting of the post Tuesday night. Heiman, past Legion service officer and past governor of the Torrance Moose Lodge, is on the sales staff of the Alter Realty Co. (Herald Photo)

Mother Arraigned on Check Charges

A 27-year-old Lomita housewife and mother of two has been arraigned on charges of passing several hundred dollars worth of bogus checks to support a losing streak in the Gardena card parlors.

Arrested here by Detectives

Mickey Fischer and Gene Eringetta, after she was identified through handwriting and her bank, was Eleanor Cora Wantz, of 2035 W. 259th Place.

She was arraigned before Judge Otto B. Willett here Tuesday and released on \$525

bail pending preliminary hearing next Monday.

She is charged with eight counts of forgery and issuing fictitious checks. She first told detectives she needed the money for her children, but later said she had lost it in Gardena, the officers said.

New Doak Plane to Be Feted

Doak Aircraft, whose radically designed D-16 plane was accepted by the Army last week, will be honored at the October breakfast meeting of the Chamber of Commerce next Tuesday morning at the Masonic Lodge, 2326 Cabrillo Ave.

Announcing the plans to salute the long-time Torrance industrial firm were John Tweedy and William Belding, co-chairmen of the October meeting.

Doak's new plane, constructed and given its first tests at Torrance Municipal Airport, is powered by ducted fans which rotate on a wing axis, permitting it to rise or descend vertically.



THE END . . . The last vestige of a civic auditorium here crumbled Monday afternoon when wrecking crews pulled in the facade of the city's 23-year-old landmark at Craven and El Prado. Erection of a new building for Security-First National Bank is planned for the prominent downtown corner. (Herald Photo)

A Penny for your Thoughts

"Do you think youngsters have as much fun with our 'servative 'Trick or Treat' 'allowe'en as they did in the good old days?" Five people in the Torrance area answered this question for today's column.

Woodrow Nauman, 2601 Armour Ln., Redondo, a auto mechanic:

"Yes, I think kids have as much fun now. I lived on a farm in Missouri when I was young and we used to have big parties with pumpkin pies and lots of good things to eat. We didn't go from door-to-door then. The worst pranks we did was putting wagons and buggies out in the roads."

Mrs. Mildred Horlock, 2334 W. 241st St., Lomita, housewife:

"All I wish is that they would stop the whole thing. I don't mind giving them candy, but they expect too much. They are getting bolder each year and really get sassy when you don't give them enough."

Thomas Scott, 525 - 24th St., Arroyo, security officer:

"I think the children have more fun now. In these days they attend planned activities for them, parties, and carnivals. It keeps them out of mischief and from running loose on the streets. Some of the things we did were unprintable."

Mrs. Alice Oddone, 6 Surrey Lane, Rolling Hills, housewife:

"I know the youngsters really have a good time. They have fun fixing up costumes and get a terrific bang the evening. They don't mischief. The free sally appeals to them. I'd think they never owed candy at home."

(Continued on Page 2)



STARTS RUSSIAN TOUR . . . Ann Landers, nationally read human relations expert whose column appears regularly in the Herald, stands in front of St. Basil's Cathedral, the famous Moscow church that has been turned into a museum by the Communists. She is wearing an astakhan hat, she reports. The first of 12 articles from Russia begin exclusively in the Herald today.

Eyewitness Report on Russia Starting Today

Elimination of capitalistic worries by letting the government solve all problems results in the Soviet Union having a smaller percentage of mental illness, Ann Landers was told recently while visiting a mental hospital in Leningrad.

Miss Landers, who has written a series of 12 articles on her trip behind the Iron Curtain which will appear exclusively in the Herald in this area, explodes the "no worry" theory in the first article, published here today.

... IN THE FINAL analysis the individual must resolve his own emotional problems in Russia—as everywhere else, the nation's most widely read

human relations columnist writes in her Herald articles.

Ann also was told on all sides that material things are not important in Russia, yet she says "a day didn't pass" that she didn't get offers to sell the dress she was wearing.

Luxury Hotel May Crash, Ann Says

Moscow's finest hotel, the Ukraine, towering 26 stories high and boasting the latest in Russian luxuries, may collapse next week, Ann Landers reports in the second of 12 articles from behind the Iron Curtain to be published in the Herald Sunday.

along with shoes, purse, hose, gloves . . . anything.

MISS LANDERS' articles provide a look at the little-known Russian on the street and in his home. The series, being run by leading metropolitan newspapers in other parts of the United States, is being offered to Herald readers on an exclusive basis each Thursday and Sunday.

Start today with the intimate background story of the people behind the Iron Curtain. To be sure you get all installments, call the circulation department now at FA 8-4000 and ask to have the Herald carrier boy deliver the paper Sunday and Thursday. It's only 45 cents a month.